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(54) Title: NOMADIC TRANSLATOR OR ROUTER

(57) Abstract

A nomadic router or translator (10) enables a laptop computer or other portable terminal (12) which is configured to be connected to a home network to be connected to any location on the Internet or other digital data communication system (14). The router (10) automatically and transparently re-configures the terminal (12) to its new location and processes outgoing and incoming data. The router (10) includes a processor (11) which appears as the home network to the terminal (12), and appears as the terminal (12) to the communication system (14). The terminal (12) has a permanent address, the router (10) has a router or translator address, and the terminal (12) transmits outgoing data to the system (14) including the permanent address as a source address. The processor (11) translates the outgoing data by replacing the permanent address with the router address as the source address. The terminal (12) receives incoming data from the system (14) including the router address as a destination address, and the processor (11) translates the incoming data by replacing the router address with the permanent address as the destination address. Alternatively, the terminal (12) can be directly connected to a point on a local network (14), and the router (10) connected to another point on the network (14). The router (10) can be employed to implement numerous applications including nomadic e-mail, network file synchronizer, database synchronizer, instant network, nomadic Internet and trade show router and can also be utilized as a fixed nomadic router.